

## MEMORANDUM

To: Indiana School Superintendents, Principals and Special Education Directors

From: Dr. Nancy J. Holsapple, OSE Director/ Robin Leclaire, Chief Academic Officer

Date: April 29th, 2020

Re: Senate Enrolled Act (SEA) 346 (2020) - Students with Disabilities (1 of 2)

### **Background:**

Senate Enrolled Act 346 (2020) establishes a task force to review accommodations as well as to explore the possibility of separating the academic standard of reading comprehension into a separate reading academic standard and a comprehension academic standard. Representatives of The Arc of Indiana (The Arc) and the Indiana Council of Administrators of Special Education (ICASE) will be consulted by the State Board of Education (SBOE) as part of the SBOE's oversight of Indiana's Learning Evaluation Assessment Readiness Network (ILEARN) program. This legislation also addresses the need for notice to be developed and distributed to parents about accommodations that the student will not be permitted to use on all or part of the statewide assessment.

### **Guidance:**

The law requires the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), in consultation with The ARC and ICASE, to develop a notice for parents of students with disabilities in grades 3 - 5 who have accommodations in their individualized education program (IEP), service plan, choice special education plan (CSEP), or plan developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (504 Plan) that the student won't be permitted to use these accommodations on all or a part of the statewide assessment.

IDOE will make a copy of the notice available to each school, and by February 1, 2021 each school must provide the notice to the parents and discuss to determine whether the student may be eligible to opt out of any applicable section of the statewide assessment. If the parent is unable to attend the conference to discuss the notice, the school shall deliver the notice by certified mail or in person delivery.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Nancy J. Holsapple by phone at (317) 232-6622 or email at [nholsapple@doe.in.gov](mailto:nholsapple@doe.in.gov).

This bill was authored by Senator Erin Houchin, and the full bill text can be found [here](#). Information regarding how to contact your legislators can be found [here](#).